

MAY 14 2005

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

## In Re Application of

Applicant : S. B. Cirulli, et al  
Serial No. : 09/815,312  
Filed : 22 March 2001  
  
Examiner : Firmin Backer  
Group : 3621  
  
Entitled : System and Method for Leveraging  
Procurement Across Companies and  
Company Groups  
Docket No. : END920000176US1

Commissioner For Patents  
P. O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

## CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION UNDER 37 CFR 1.8

I hereby certify that the following attached  
correspondence comprising 2 pages:

|   |        |
|---|--------|
| CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION   | 1 page |
| REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE) |        |
| TRANSMITTAL                             | 1 page |

is being facsimile transmitted by me to the United  
States Patent and Trademark Office at (703) 872-9306,  
on the date below.

SHELLEY M BECKSTRAND

Date: 14 May 2005



**REQUEST  
FOR  
CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE)  
TRANSMITTAL**

Address to:  
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P. O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

|                      |                     |
|----------------------|---------------------|
| Application Number   | 09/815,312          |
| Filing Date          | 22 Mar 2001         |
| First Named Inventor | Susan B.<br>Cirulli |
| Art Unit             | 3621                |
| Examiner Name        | Firmin Backer       |
| Attorney Docket No.  | end920000176us1     |

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 CFR 1.114 of the above-identified application.

1. SUBMISSION REQUIRED UNDER 37 CFR §1.114

- a. ☒ Previously submitted
- i. ☒ Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 CFR §1.116 previously filed on 9 APRIL 2005.  
(Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered.)
- ii. ☐ Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on \*\*\*\*\*.
- iii. ☐ Other
- b. ☐ Enclosed
- i. ☐ Amendment/Reply
- ii. ☐ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)
- iii. ☐ Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)
- iv. ☐ Other

2. MISCELLANEOUS

- a. ☐ Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 CFR §1/103(c) for a period of \*\* months.  
(Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 CFR §1.17(i) required).
- b. ☐ Other

3. FEES

- a. ☒ The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to IBM Corporation Deposit Account No. 09-0457
- i. ☒ RCE fee required under 37 CFR §1.17(e)
- ii. ☐ Extension of time fee (37 CFR §§1.136 and 1.17)
- iii. ☐ Other
- b. ☐ Check in the amount of \$ enclosed
- c. ☐ Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)

**SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED**

Signature  
Name

*Shelley M Beckstrand*  
SHELLEY M BECKSTRAND

Date 14 May 2005  
Registration No. 24,886

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner For Patents, Mail Stop RCE, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office.

Signature  
Name

*Shelley M Beckstrand*  
SHELLEY M BECKSTRAND

Date 14 MAY 2005